Athletics Carnival
Tomorrow is our school athletics carnival. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours and ‘have a go.’ All family members are invited to come along to support, help and even compete so don’t forget to wear your joggers too! Year 6 will be holding a cake stall and there will be snacks and drinks available for purchase through the canteen.
After the carnival there will be a Year 6 meeting to discuss end of year preparations and fundraising ideas.
If you cannot make it but are willing to help or offer ideas please let us know and we can pass on this information. Many hands make light work!

P&C Meeting
There will be a P&C meeting held this Thursday afternoon after school to discuss possibilities regarding the spending of P&C funds. All parents are invited to attend.

Big 5 Sports – Dance/Soccer
Tomorrow dance will begin after school from 3pm – 4pm in the school hall, with soccer commencing Thursday afternoon at the same times. A flyer was been sent home with registration details and there are spares in the office if you require.

Teaching Principals’ Network Meeting
I will be attending the Teaching Principals’ Network meeting this Friday at Spencer PS. Miss Ryan will be teaching the Yr 3/4 class.

Assembly
This Friday our first school assembly will be held for the term. It will begin at 2pm and all are welcome to attend.

Education Week
Next week is Education Week for public schools across the state. To help celebrate the achievements of our school we will be holding an Open Day next Tuesday, 29th July. The day will begin with open classrooms, giving parents the opportunity to go into their child’s class and see what is happening. Parents are also invited in that time to have a look in the library and at our environment area.
At 9:30am the bell will ring and we will go to the hall for our Public Speaking finals. All classes will be running competitions during the next week with finalists competing on the Open Day. Sue MacNeil will adjudicate the competition and our representatives for the Central Coast Public Speaking competition will be announced.
After that we will be holding our Premier’s Spelling Bee finals for students in years 3-6. When we have our two representatives from each stage, we will be holding a parent/student competition for those who are game! Once our spelling bee is finished we will head down to the COLA for morning tea with our families where cakes will be on sale.

We are hoping that you can join us on the day.

**Kariong Mountains Learning Community**

Kariong Mountains Learning Community have a “Day of Excellence” on Wednesday 30th July 2014. All schools in our learning community will be performing on the day, starting at 10am in the Kariong Mountains High School Hall.

Our Band recorder group and dance group will be performing on the day. A permission note for performers has been sent home today. Parents are invited to attend.

**NAIDOC Day**

To finish the week Peats Ridge Public School will be hosting a day to recognise NAIDOC week that fell in our last holidays. This day will end with a performance.

A note and lunch order for the day has been sent home today.

**P and C Donations**

The P and C have generously donated money that was used to purchase class sets of three novels that Stage 2 & 3 class will be using this term. Part of the novel study may require your child taking a book home to read for homework. These books are numbered and recorded at school. Books not returned will be required to be replaced. So if your child loses or damages the book there will be a $15.00 replacement fee.

Thank you again for all of these wonderful resources.  

Kirsty Squires

**K/1/2**

**Public Speaking**

All students will have the opportunity to participate in our whole school public speaking competition. As part of our homework this week, I would like all K/1/2 students to prepare a 1-2 minute speech on a topic of their choice (eg holidays, dogs, soccer, motorbikes, my family) to be presented in class on Monday 28th July. Students will receive marks for: speaking clearly, making good eye contact, good pace, ideas shared, supporting statements, structure (introduction, middle, conclusion) and preparation. If you have any questions, please come and see me before Monday. I look forward to hearing what the students prepare.

**National Tree Day**

On Friday 25th July, we will be participating in National Tree Day. Gosford City Council has kindly supplied us with lots of beautiful native plants for us to plant around our school grounds.

If students have gardening gloves they’d like to wear while planting, please send them in their school bags. We are looking forward to participating in this fun event.

Jade Cranstone

**Year 5/6**

We held our “Premier’s Spelling Bee” eliminations in our classroom
yesterday. Our five candidates will be narrowed down to two on Open Day next week.

On Thursday each student will present a speech to the class. These are being prepared at home and are to be no longer than three minutes. A reminder to students that this is a compulsory activity.

As part of our English programme our class is reading Roald Dahl’s “The BFG”. Each student will be provided with a copy (courtesy of the P & C) to take home to read prescribed chapters as part of homework. There will be a $15.00 charge for damage or loss.

Year 6 Cake Stall and Meeting
Year 6 will be running a cake stall at Wednesday’s Athletics Carnival. The prices will be 50c and 20c.
Following the carnival, Mrs Squires and myself will be holding a short Year 6 fundraising and end of year meeting. We hope to see you there.

Athletics
Good luck to everyone tomorrow.
We’ll need parent help to run tomorrow’s carnival.
Please come and let me know if your available to help.

Library
All students participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge will have received a reminder note yesterday. Many of you are very close to completing the challenge. If you need help entering the books please organise to meet with me at lunchtime. Thank you to Bella who handed me a list of books she needed entering, she has now completed the challenge. If you need me to enter books for you please bring in the reading record sheet with the books clearly written. The Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes on August 22nd. I would love for everyone participating to complete it.

Week 6 is Book Week, during this week we will be hosting our Book Fair. We will be selling books on 18th, 19th and 20th of August.

Tuesday 19th August is our book parade. The book fair will be open to parents after the book parade. This is a perfect opportunity to purchase some Christmas presents. The more you purchase, the more the school receives back in rewards.

Dance
This is a final reminder for all dancers to return their dance costumes, including black/red t-shirts. We are performing at Karingal Mountains High School on Wednesday 30th July. T-shirts will be returned to you after this performance.

Public Speaking
This week all students are expected to participate in their class Public Speaking competition. Please be mindful of the time restraints as not adhering to these can result in you not progressing to the next round. A table of time limits is below.

Next week at our Education Week Open Day, successful students will be participating in the Somersby Public Speaking Competition. This competition will be adjudicated by Sue MacNeil who has adjudicated many of
our debates in the past. The Somersby Public Speaking competition will take place 9.30-10.30 in the hall.

Please come along and support our Public Speakers. Mrs MacNeil will choose 2 students per stage to represent Somersby at the Central Coast Public Speaking Competition on Thursday 14th August at Chertsey Public School. Good Luck everybody.

**Laura Knight**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage Grouping</th>
<th>Time Limit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)</td>
<td>1 – 2 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)</td>
<td>1 – 2 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)</td>
<td>2 – 3 minutes</td>
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<td>(warning bell at 2 ½ minutes - continuous bell will sound once limit has been exceeded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
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<td>(warning bell at 2 ½ minutes - continuous bell will sound once limit has been exceeded)</td>
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**P and C News**

Special P&C meeting
Thursday, July 24

A special meeting of the P&C will be held in the school library at 3pm on Thursday. This meeting is being held because the school holidays meant that we could not have our usual July meeting, and it is important that we continue to progress our decisions around prioritising the major projects to which the P&C will commit funds.

The only item on the agenda will be projects and the allocation of funds. Please come along if you would like to be part of this planning process.

**Green Tree Frog**

The green tree frog can climb smooth surfaces by clinging with their belly skin and the pads on their toes. Its main danger is the destruction of its habitat through wetland clearance and drainage. Disease has also become an important factor, particularly a type of fungus called a chytrid fungus that attacks the frog’s skin. The green tree frog is usually a beautiful bright green, though, depending on the mood of the frog, this may sometimes fade to a dark khaki-green.

**Habitat:** Found through the eastern and northern parts of Australia, prefers cool damp places and, in more arid areas. Well known for hiding under the rim of outback toilet bowls! **Diet:** spiders, crickets, lizards, other frogs & cockroaches and sometimes even small mice.

Our New Chickens (pictured Below)